

1 Fiber Channel Adaptor Interface for Serial or Parallel ATA Disks

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4 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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6 Coupling disks having only a single controller connection to more than
7 one controller. An adaptor interfaces an ATA disk with two interfaces to a backplane
8 having a fiber channel backplane interface form factor. Switching logic controls the in-
9 terfaces, so the ATA disk has redundant capability for connecting to controlling devices.
10 The backplane communicates signals suitable to the ATA disk, while having the same
11 form factor as a fiber channel disk. The backplane is coupled to a signal converter, so
12 an ATA disk can be coupled to a fiber channel interface. The signal converter allows
13 backplanes with ATA disks to be mixed with fiber channel disks, on one fiber channel
14 loop. ATA disks are coupled to fiber channel backplanes, so fiber channel techniques
15 are used to provide multiple controllers for them.